PROCLAMATION

National Wildlife Refuge Week

WHEREAS, The National Wildlife Refuge System is the world's finest collection of lands and waters devoted to the protection and management of fish and wildlife resources, consisting of 548 units and encompassing about 97 million acres; and

WHEREAS, National wildlife refuges provide habitat for more than 700 species of birds, 220 species of mammals, 250 species of reptiles and amphibians, and more than 1,000 species of fish; and

WHEREAS, National wildlife refuges provide significant opportunities for the American public to enjoy outdoor recreational activities - playing host to over 40 million visitors each year; and

WHEREAS, Visitors to refuges generate significant economic activity; their spending generating over \$1.7 billion of sales in regional economies, and creating 27,000 jobs; and

WHEREAS, National wildlife refuges provide many opportunities for our children to learn about their environment and to enjoy the great out of doors; and

WHEREAS, Indian River County is fortunate to have two national wildlife refuges, Pelican Island and Archie Carr, located within its boundaries.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA, that October 12-18, 2008 be designated as National Wildlife Refuge Week in Indian River County.

Dated this 23rd day of September, 2008.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA

Sandra L. Bowden Chairman

Wesley S. Davis, Vice Chairman

Gary C. Wheeler

Peter D. O'Bryan

Joseph E. Flescher